State of New Mexico Office of the Attorney General Gary K. King

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AG King Prosecutes Embezzler

Bookkeeper Owes State More Than \$700,000

(ALBUQUERQUE)---41-year-old Kimberly Colbert (KHOL-bert), co-owner and bookkeeper for MRKD, Inc., in Las Cruces, has been sentenced to 2 years incarceration, 5 years supervised probation and was ordered to repay \$709,586.85 to the State of New Mexico for her role in an embezzlement and tax evasion case prosecuted by Attorney General Gary King's Office.

Colbert pleaded guilty to Embezzlement (Over \$20,000) - a 2nd degree felony with a basic sentence of 9 years; and Attempt to Evade or Defeat Tax, a special penalty 4 degree felony with a basic sentence of 1 year. She was sentenced Tuesday by 3rd Judicial District Court Judge Lisa Schultz in Las Cruces.

While serving as vice-president and bookkeeper for MRKD, a private company offering motor vehicle title, registration and drivers license services, Colbert paid no personal income taxes in 2006 or 2007.

While the defendant is on probation, she must pay restitution in the amount of \$709,586.85 and she must comply with any other conditions set forth by the New Mexico Probation and Parole Division.

Colbert must turn herself in to the Department of Corrections by 5:00 p.m. on July 24, 2009.